

My name is Todd Hecker and we, myself, my wife Stacy Hecker and father David H. Hecker, own one of the farms in Point MacKenzie, we are all for growth out here at Point MacKenzie and first off we would like to point out that we are not against this Railroad Extension project and are willing to work with the railroad on having the railroad crossing our property, we are totally for it. We do not appreciate, however, that we had zero chance for public opinion or comment in regards to this central route being an option, as we were always told it was only East and West.

The railroad has stated that they will be fair with us but the borough is the one we will be dealing with, not the railroad, this is not a situation we feel secure with, as the borough has never been fair to us at any time.

The purpose of the railroad using this central route is that it will cost them hundreds of thousands of dollars less, if not millions, to construct and operate, and the borough stands to gain a profit from it in a short amount of time, which we are all for, as long as we are not getting the short end of the stick.

We have worked very hard and invested a lot of money and thousands of hours of time and labor to make this land the way it is. Without the acreage the railroad wishes to purchase, we will be losing more than \$40,000.00 revenue per year and will not be able to make my payments or purchase fertilizer. If the Mat-su Borough is not willing to be fair and also compensate us for that lost income, we will lose our farm so the state may prosper with its Railroad. We also have two permanent structures on our property that have never been mentioned that will have to be moved. If the borough is not going to be willing to work with us and just try to take our land, we will have lost our livelihood and income so that they are the only ones that may make a profit from our hard work and money.

AGAIN, we are willing to work with the railroad as long as our family does not have to pay the ultimate price and lose everything we have all worked so hard for the last eleven years. We have always been for growth and jobs in this state. We also own an electrical contracting company in the Wasilla area, Point MacKenzie Electric. Everything we work for has been put into our property, this is my wife Stacy's primary job. The Railroad has stated that the Mac Central route is the most economical route. That is obvious, as it is perfectly leveled, cleared, and maintained by us. Cost per acre is much cheaper for the railroad to construct on flat land rather than on land with holes and valleys or swamps as is on the other routes. This does not mean we have to give the borough our land, move from our home, and have to start all over, with the way the economy is today my family would suffer if the borough is not fair. They plan to pay for their investment in a few short years where as we have already worked this ground for more than 10 years. My family wants to be treated fairly and compensated for the loss of our income. We have to still be able to make our land payments and machinery, with the loss of 120+ acres this will not be possible if the borough chooses to per say "railroad" our family. We are only asking for fairness, you are not buying land that has to be changed, filled, dug out, nor do you have to fill in wetlands. We have already paid to have all of this done for them.

Sincerely,

Todd Hecker and Family, 189 E Nelson Ave. PMB 117, Wasilla, AK 99654